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VENONA

Moscow (Molotov) to Soviet Embassy, Washington
No. 120, 24 February 1946

Send the State Department a note of the following content:

"On the instructions of the Soviet Government I have the honor to inform you of the following:^b

"After the entry of Soviet troops into Rumania the Soviet authorities placed ^{and held} under arrest certain [7 groups unrecovered] to enter the war against the United Nations. These persons are subject to trial for their crimes.

"Among those under arrest are former Premier Ion Antonescu, former Vice-Premier [11 groups unrecovered], K. Vasilin, and others.

"[1 group unrecovered] Rumanian Government has applied to the Soviet Government with a request to turn the above-mentioned Rumanian war [criminals?] over to it [17 groups unavailable]

"The Soviet Government has no objection to satisfying this request of the Rumanian Government, but would like to know the opinion of the Government of the United States of America on this question.

"The Soviet Government has approached the Government of England with an analogous inquiry."

Report the carrying out of these instructions. -- Molotov^a

^aPeoples Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the USSR.

^bSee the attached Russian text.

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